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The  
Pennsylvania-German  
Society

PROCEEDINGS AND ADDRESSES

AT

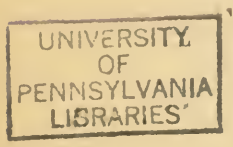
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JULIUS F. SACHSE, Litt.D.  
DANIEL W. NEAD, M.D.  
HENRY M. M. RICHARDS.

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### **Pennsylvania** — THE GERMAN INFLUENCE IN ITS SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT :

DANIEL FALCKNER'S "CURIEUSE NACHRICHT FROM PENNSYLVANIA" — The Book that Stimulated the Great German Emigration to Pennsylvania in the Early Years of the XVIII Century.

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### RECORD OF THE MARRIAGES IN THE ST. MICHAELIS AND ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONGREGATION IN PHILADELPHIA.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY  
FOR 1903-1904

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*President:*

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*Vice-Presidents:*

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IRA CHRISTIAN SCHOCK.

*Secretary:*

H. M. M. RICHARDS.

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REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN SOCIETY  
AT ITS  
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

HELD AT LEBANON, PA.

ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1903

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THE Executive Committee of the Society held its usual quarterly meeting in the office of the Hon. Lee L. Grumbine, 811 Cumberland Street, on Wednesday evening, October 21, for the transaction of its business.

MORNING SESSION.

The Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania-German Society was held in the Salem Memorial Lutheran Chapel, at Eighth and Willow Streets, Lebanon, Pa., on Thursday, October 22, 1903, and was attended by an unusually large number of members and friends.

The gathering was called to order by the President, the Rev. Joseph A. Seiss, DD., LL.D., L.H.D., at 9:00 A. M.

The Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D.D., of Myerstown, Pa., offered the opening prayer, which was followed by an address of welcome, on behalf of the resident members of the Society, delivered by the Hon. Lee L. Grumbine.

#### ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

*Mr. President, fellow members of the Pennsylvania-German Society, ladies and gentlemen:*

When Oliver Cromwell returned to London after the subjugation of Ireland, the acclaim and welcome with which he was received is very graphically described by Hood in his life of the great "Protector." "On Hounslow Heath," the account states, he was met by General Fairfax, many Members of Parliament and officers of the Army and multitudes of the common people. Coming to Hyde Park he was received by the Lord Mayor and corporation of the city of London, the great guns were fired off (just as some of these will be fired off here, to-day, according to this program), and Colonel Barkstead's regiment which was drawn up for that purpose, gave him several volleys with their small arms. Thus in a triumphant manner he entered London amid a crowd of attendants, and was received with the highest acclamations. It was while he rode thus in state through London that Oliver replied to some sycophantic person who had observed — "What a crowd comes out to see your Lordship's triumph!"

"Yes, but if it were to see me hanged how many more would there be!"

Doubtless the hanging of some of us would have brought together a greater crowd, but that fact alone would be no index of the esteem in which we are held or of the welcome

which the people of Lebanon extend to you. They love the Pennsylvania-German Society, because they look upon it in a sense as their own child; for while the mere accident of birth took place in our sister city of Lancaster the real credit of parentage is accorded to the city which lays its welcome, its hospitality and its freedom at your feet to-day. In the record as it is written by the Society, in its first volume of proceedings, in the introductory account of the beginnings of the movement which culminated in the organization of this Society the fact is chronicled that "during the months of December, 1890, and January, 1891, articles appeared in various journals throughout Eastern Pennsylvania, the earliest being in the Lebanon Report, followed by the New Era, of Lancaster, and the Philadelphia Inquirer, advocating the formation of a Pennsylvania German Society"; so that while the region embraced within the county of Lebanon furnished a refuge among the earliest and most hospitable, to the brave spirits who came from the Fatherland, the city of Lebanon is conceded to be the very fountain-head of the movement which has resulted in the magnificent work of the organization which she proudly and cordially receives within her walls and welcomes to her altars, her firesides and her festal boards to-day. And without any suggestion of the Prodigal's return, though he may have sojourned in Harrisburg and other evil places, we have figuratively killed the fatted calf to celebrate your glad coming, and we propose from our side to give the day and the night over to rejoicing, to merry-making, to fraternal greeting, to festivity, to good cheer, to music, to song, and to hospitality as a small return for the honor and the friendship and the distinction and the eloquence and all the other blessings and advantages which you deign to bestow upon us by your coming.

It is a matter of genuine personal regret to me that the membership of this Society does not as yet include the ladies, although I read nothing in the prescribed qualifications for membership that would exclude them. I would count it a privilege and a joy indeed to improve a real favorable opportunity, or more appropriately speaking to embrace the opportunity of demonstrating my faculty to accord a warm and hearty welcome to the ladies, if I had but half a chance. But although we do not as yet extend to them the privilege of membership, like the poor they are always with us anyhow, and by inviting them we show our appreciation of that true and wise saying of the seer of the Fatherland, the poet Goethe, when he writes: “*Der Umgang mit Frauen is das Element guter Sitten.*”

And so I would say to the ladies, if not exactly in an official way nevertheless I assure them that it is none the less heartily spoken:

“Come in the evening or come in the morning,  
Come when you're looked for or come without warning,  
Kisses and welcome you'll find here before you,  
And the oftener you come here the more we'll adore you.”

I hardly conceive it to be my province in discharging this function of the program to speak to you about the work of the Society either past or future. That speaks for itself. I might talk to you about the glories, the beauties and the superior advantages of this fine old town but considerations of commiseration and humanity bid me spare the feelings of those who do not live here. I might tell you of the municipal privileges and public utilities which we enjoy here, the finely paved streets, the excellent public schools, the unparalleled water supply, the delightful fortune of being spared all trouble and annoyance in



the management of public affairs by having them done ready made by one or two of our public-spirited political bosslets; which of course bears with it the corresponding blessing of high taxes and plenty of them, but his honor the Mayor is here, who will follow me in extending to you the freedom of the city, and I must not anticipate him.

I might, in imagination, take you in a historical automobile so to speak, and whisk you through the attractive domains of our County Historical Society, to show you for example the old hat of old Steitz, the founder of old Steitze; the old kitchen stove of old Alexander Schaeffer, of Schaefferstown; the old corn-cob pipe of old Frederick Stump, of Stumpstown; or the baptismal register of Ann, of Annville, and thus enable you to work out that all-absorbing problem concerning the age of that conspicuous and interesting and enigmatical young female; but my Brother Croll, the real historian of the bailiwick, has promised to do something of that sort this afternoon, and I must not trespass on his preserves.

I might point you to the various manufactures and industries of this town, which have given it the name of the Iron City, where old Vulcan and the cunning Loge with his host of Niebelungen have been forging wealth and wonderful things out of the sun's heat, for the happiness and the comfort of mankind; but Mr. Grittinger knows vastly more about those matters than I could tell you, and he will regale you with some such account this afternoon, on the little excursion which the watchful and hospitable committee of arrangements have planned for the delectation of their distinguished guests.

And lastly, and what would be the most agreeable task that I could allot myself, I might paint for your imagination in phrase of oriental imagery, in grand and stately

prose or in the measured strophes of the knightly troubadour, the charms and the loveliness and the beauty of the women of Lebanon; but after you see them and hear them at the concert and at the banquet to-night my poor description would fall so far short of the reality that I would be plunged into irretrievable disgrace for making the attempt. Besides I don't care about getting into trouble at home!

Over a century and a half ago as the clans — not of the Campbells and the Morgans — but of the Fatherland invaded this beautiful valley for the first time along the banks of the Schuylkill and the Tulpehocken from the east, or, the silvery Swatara and the babbling Quittapahilla from the west, or as the wondering pioneer crossed over either mountain range to the north or south, and beheld the fair Lebanon Valley stretching before his enraptured eye like a garden of the Lord, and his adventurous spirit saw for the first time the virgin forests which lay before him like the noble cedars of Lebanon, with the distant mountains glittering in the sun or shrouded in the silvery mists of the morning, picturing to his pious imagination the snow-capped range of Libanos or Anti-Libanos, there was none to bid him welcome but the hungry howl of the panther and the inhospitable tomahawk of the “first citizen”; and I for one feel like congratulating myself on not being asked to make the address of welcome on that occasion. I was trying to imagine what sort of a figure some of you would cut if you had come here under those circumstances; and call your attention to what they missed at that time in not being members of the Pennsylvania-German Society and being welcomed and entertained in this more modern fashion.

Different now is the scene which meets the traveler's eye,  
Glorious pictures of peace and plenty before him lie;

Endless acres of wealth and industry, far and wide  
Stretching out 'long the course of the stream on either side,  
Acres of fat fruition by the world's best husbandry tilled,  
Barns that are bursting with riches, houses with comforts filled ;  
Hillsides clad in golden mantles of nodding grain, —  
Magic transmutation of the sunshine and the rain ;  
Orchards laden with fruit, and fields of the waving corn,  
Blushing in the sunrise when kissed by the dews of the morn ;  
Landscape dotted with valley and hamlet ; and white church spire,  
Silently pointing the pilgrim to the life beyond that is higher.  
Virtue, contentment and thrift here in peace and unity dwell ;  
Voices of air and wood in chorus their gladness tell ;  
Nature, and bounty of heaven, and labor of man unite  
Every creature to please and every sense to delight.

To-day as the clans of the Dutch invade this fair scene now teeming with wealth and dotted with city, town and village and hamlet, for the second and the third time, as they come not with Conestoga wagon or on foot, but in the stately caravans drawn along the river curves and mountain bends by iron horse, with the smoke of countless shops and factories ascending like grateful incense to a smiling Providence it is my extreme delight to welcome you to the hearths and the hearts of the people of Lebanon ; and with Portia I say to you “Sirs, you are welcome to our house : It must appear in other ways than words, therefore I scant this breathing courtesy.” And I trust, ere the day is out, you will feel like answering back in the language of Pandora, in Longfellow's “Masque of Pandora,” as she replied to Epimetheus :

“How beautiful is this house ! The atmosphere  
Breathes rest and comfort, and the many chambers  
Seem full of welcome.”

On behalf of the city of Lebanon its mayor, the Hon. Abram Hess, then extended the following cordial greeting.

## GREETING FROM THE CITY OF LEBANON.

*To the Gentlemen of the Pennsylvania-German Society.*

If I understand aright my function upon this pleasing occasion, it is to add the official greeting, so to speak, of the City of Lebanon, to the welcomes you have already received and will receive. It is in a figurative way to extend to you the keys of the City.

My duty is collateral. It is coincident with the handing over to you the keys to the hearts of our citizens. Or perhaps it is subsequent rather than coincident. For, upon second thought, I am inclined to think you possessed the "Open Sesame" to our hearts and affections, even before you arrived within our gates. In truth, the duties of this occasion, pleasing though they be, may be regarded as merely formal and non-essential. You know from the nature of things that you need no special assurance from me or from any one else, of the welcome for visiting Pennsylvania-Germans that dwells in every true Lebanon heart and you can quickly infer that the freedom of this municipality is yours without the asking.

How could it be otherwise in the town reputed to have been founded by one who bore the name of George Steitz?

I do not need to tell you of this and like illustrious names and what they stand for in the past or what they stand for in this day and generation. I do not need to speak of Lebanonions' pride of ancestry, the pride that rests upon their sturdy German origin; the pride that flows from recognition to-day in themselves of those attributes that tell of Teutonic stock, unmistakable even where occasionally blended with other strains. I need not do all this nor could I becomingly in this presence, before this audience where are so many competent to give instructions upon this fruitful theme, rather than receive information from me.

It is not my purpose to trespass upon forbidden preserves. There are at hand those who are rarely qualified, delightfully competent, not only to recount all that is known of our beloved Pennsylvania-German blood, but whose scholastic achievements, learning, research and natural gifts, oratorical and otherwise, can enable them to add to the sum total of knowledge along this line, as we have reason to believe they will do ere final adjournment of these annual sessions is reached.

I am aware then of the presumption that would be involved in my alluding to the purposes of this assembly, further than in mere illustration of the message it is mine to convey, and a message at that, which you already comprehend; the message which a Pennsylvania-German community gives to Pennsylvania-Germans, assembled to do honor to an ancestry to which all alike lay claim and in which all alike rejoice. For even in an official capacity, this human side of the question must assert itself. The quaint and often misconstrued expression, that a corporation has no soul, may invite the comment that a municipality is but a corporation and that speaking as the representative of such, I might not have the latitude accorded some other, to whom is committed likewise the pleasing task of uttering words of greeting. But whatever the ancient legal commentator may have meant in his allusion to the soullessness of corporations, and, by parity of reasoning, of municipalities, I here aver that the municipality of Lebanon has a soul and it has a heart, and that they are both Pennsylvania-German.

When Pennsylvania-Germans invade Lebanon it is like the historic invasion of Holland by the Dutch. It is entirely within bounds to say that Lebanon surrenders to the besieging party on sight, and when the invasion is over

and the invaders have gone, will gladly bid them to come and capture us again.

The response to these kindly greetings was most ably made by General John E. Roller, of Harrisonburg, Va.

RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN  
SOCIETY BY GENERAL JOHN E. ROLLER, TO THE  
ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO THE SOCIETY BY  
THE CITY OF LEBANON, PA.

In one of the most thrilling and interesting narratives of personal experiences in the late war, written by an old comrade, which has just come from the press, under the title of "Four Years Under Marse Robert," the story is told, how one of the most distinguished generals of the Army of Northern Virginia, an old time governor of the State of Virginia, then the commander of a division in that army, and afterwards Governor of the State of Virginia for a second term, had the honor to march into the old city of York, the band by his order, playing "Dixie" and then "Yankee Doodle," and so on alternately, and how he bowed to the pretty girls as he saw them on the right and on the left, and made himself as gracious and as acceptable as he ever was in the Old Dominion, and how the people gathered around him, and the old fellow made a characteristic stump speech to them, and was enthusiastically cheered by the audience.

The story is told too in reference to the visit of the Army of Northern Virginia to Pennsylvania: how the children who had at first thought it necessary to hide for fear of the rebels, of whose ferociousness wonderful stories had been told them, soon began to find out that they were but men, after all, and of kindly heart and temperament, and my comrade tells how he himself captured one little



boy, five or six years of age, who had hidden at first under his bed clothes, and how he soon had him in his lap, and how they became the best of friends. He tells also that as they sat there, a little brother of some ten or twelve summers burst into the gate, breathless with excitement, exclaiming, "Oh! Mother, mother may I go over into the Camp with the rebels? They are the nicest men I ever saw and they are going to camp right out here in the woods, and they are going to have a dance, too." The boy had gotten among the Creoles of the Louisiana Troops, who were accustomed to end their march with a pirouette on the green sward, and the fame of whose "stag dances," which came, at any time after a great march, or just before a big battle, were the theme of the whole army.

If such incidents could occur in the time of the great civil war, why may not an old rebel make his appearance in the old State of Pennsylvania and respond, on behalf of his historical associates and brethren, to an address of welcome from the City of Lebanon? Your own Governor is my far away kinsman. I live in the old residence of Isaac Pennypacker of Pennsylvania-German stock, who was at one time United States Senator from Virginia and Judge of our Federal Court. I bear in my veins some of the Pennypacker blood, and am descended from Pennsylvania ancestors in every line. At Ephrata, last year, as one of the speakers at the unveiling of the monument to the Revolutionary soldiers buried there, I was introduced as a "great grandson of Lancaster County" because my great grandfather had been baptised in the old first church in that historic city, and when Governor Pennypacker a year or two since sent me a copy of his historical article on Massachusetts, he accompanied it with an epigram which to me is one of the most pleasing and acceptable that I

have ever had sent me. It is this: "Virginia and Pennsylvania, the two states that have bred the soldiers and fought the wars of America."

It is a fact well known to those who have given the subject any investigation whatever—the true historians of the land—that prior to the time when the Alleghenies could be crossed and settlements made beyond them with safety, the great stream of exploration and discovery and of internal emigration, in the Colonies, was along wholly different lines, from the highways, which were opened later. The routes, which the ancestors of a large element of our people followed in settling the country east of the great Appalachian chain of mountains are to me, and to the members of this Society, of far deeper interest than the paths by which, later on, they crossed the same mountains. As an illustration of my meaning it may be mentioned that one of the most interesting queries of the day is this: From what direction was the great Valley of the Shenandoah in the Old Dominion settled? That the first white man who ever looked upon it came from the East is established beyond all doubt, by that rare and interesting publication, the "Journal of John Lederer"; and it must not be forgotten, too, that he was of German descent, yet from what quarter the first of the actual settlers came is not so clear. If Adam Miller of the "Great Shenandoah" was the first settler, the records of the Perkiomen Region show that he came to Virginia from the Valley of Perkiomen, near Philadelphia. If Henry Funk was the first settler, then the fact that he had a child named for the noted Kelpius proves that he also came into the Shenandoah Valley from Pennsylvania on the North. If Maria Elizabeth Gerber, a follower of Kelpius, she to whom he addressed "in Virginia" in 1704, a long epistle, warning her against the

doctrines and practices of the Quakers, was the first or among the first of the settlers of that historic region, she must have come also from the proximity of the cell of the hermit on the Wissahickon.

It must be admitted that this data is exceedingly meager and fragmentary at best, and that the inferences to be deduced therefrom are but shadowy and inconclusive. But they become much more significant as time has elapsed; and as nothing to contradict them has come before us, they have grown to be conclusive.

There cannot be a shadow of a doubt that later on when the great stream of emigration began to find its way into the Valley, crossing the Potomac at the Point of Rocks, or farther West at the Shallow Ford, at Shepherdstown, or at the noted crossing at the mouth of Conococheague, or Falling Waters, it followed the line of travel which had been established within the mountains by the pioneers of that day, and pursuing these rugged paths, into the South and South-west, they found homes, and settled in many of the valleys of the great mountains that shut them in. The more adventurous of these restless spirits pushed on into the Carolinas and into North Georgia, being constrained to find homes east of the great mountains as they got farther south, because of the fierce Cherokees, by whom they were excluded from the valleys of the Tennessee.

That these highways were the most important of Colonial days is shown by the results that have followed them whereby the restless home-seekers of those days, the German and Scotch-Irish, in large numbers, and the Swiss, French and Swedish, the latter three in fewer numbers, having occupied the most fertile and delightful territory of the whole American Continent, have married and inter-

married until by that sort of commingling they have produced a noted stock of people. It has made what Governor Wise has called "the invincible Cohee Cross."

I have been told by one of our most noted antiquarians, the lamented Dr. Egle, your former State Librarian and the author of most interesting notes upon Pennsylvania Genealogy and History, that in his researches into the history of Pennsylvania families, he found mention made in more than one will or deed, of the son, or daughter in Virginia or the Carolinas, and I laughingly told him, "Yes, I knew that, and it tells this story, that whenever there was an especially bright and enterprising member of a family, he or she as the case might be, made his or her way southward, and helped to people the Valley of the Shenandoah and other southern points, and left the lame and the halt behind, to people the Old State of Pennsylvania," which he admitted was a good joke from my standpoint only.

Under the rules of this Society the descendants of those Colonists of German stock who went out from this old State of Pennsylvania are entitled to share in its membership, and in its honors. Are they unworthy of these privileges because in the great "War Between the States," as we call it, or the "War of the Rebellion," as some of our friends in the North insist upon calling it, they took sides in the defence of their homes with the southern people? As to this, I for one do not accept the sentiment of our President, Mr. Roosevelt, in his address at Antietam in September last to the effect that—

"Every friend of liberty, every believer in self government, every idealist who wished to see his ideals take practical shape wherever he might be in the world, knew that the success of all in which he most believed was

bound up with the success of the Union armies in that great struggle," — at Antietam and those throughout the war.

But, upon the contrary, I submit that we should accept rather the sentiments of another: one of ripe judgment and bright scholarship, a soldier who fought under the Stars and Stripes in the Great War, a scion of a distinguished and noted family, whose ancestors themselves filled the same presidential chair, and who has as much right to speak as any other, who declared that as he "read the record and understood the facts in the case of direct and insoluble issue, between sovereign State and sovereign Nation, between 1788 and 1861, every man was not only free to decide, but had to decide for himself, and whichever way he decided, *he was right*. The Constitution gave him two masters. Both he could not serve, and the average man decided which to serve, in the light of the sentiment, tradition, and environment."

It is a fact well known to intelligent men that the vast and overwhelming majority of men who fought for the Southern Cause did not fight for slavery, and never thought of themselves as fighting for the preservation of slavery, for they neither owned slaves, nor cared to own them, or expected ever to own them. Neither did they fight for the right of secession or for the Southern interpretation of the Constitution. Virginia was for the Union by an overwhelming majority and had so voted, and she had persisted in her refusal to join the seceding states steadily and faithfully, notwithstanding the excitement of the day, and the tremendous influences and forces that were being brought to bear to bring her into the conflict along side of her sister States of the South; and she so continued, until there came the call of Abraham Lincoln

for troops for the purpose of making war. Then it was that the most extreme anti-secessionists and anti-war men in the Virginia Convention became the most enthusiastic men in the Commonwealth in the advocacy of war and in their service in it.

The leaders of the old Whig Party vied with the leaders of the Democratic Party in their devotion to the State, and, as Mr. Lincoln was quickly informed, there were "no Union men in Virginia." At that moment the sentiment "My country, may she always be right, but right or wrong, my country," inspired the decision and aroused the enthusiasm of a united people.

Fain would I believe that the organization of this Society upon broad and patriotic lines, such that the Confederate soldier may enroll himself therein without abasement, imports that the time has come when the attitude in which he stood at the beginning of the war may now be appreciated and when it may be admitted that he responded to the call of his country, as one made upon his honor, his patriotism, his courage, his fidelity.

Oh! I believe the mists are breaking — and through the rift the clear sunlight is shining. That in order to give the Union soldier — the victor in the civil war — due credit for his heroic endurance and achievements, it will be a necessity to attribute to the Confederate soldier no less respect for principle, no less reverence for right and no less love for all that is noblest and best for government, than to the other.

The men of Pennsylvania-German descent who fought in the Southern armies are not ashamed of the part we took in that war. We do not feel that we are any discredit to the race from which we spring, and it is affirmed with confidence, that when the history shall have been



written of the part borne by the sons of the Pennsylvania-German element in the Confederate armies, there will be no brighter page in the records of this Society than that.

In the famous Pickett's charge, his men were commanded by at least two brigadier generals, who were Virginia soldiers of German descent. The North Carolina troops were commanded in many instances by soldiers of the same stock. One family alone is said to have furnished as many as five general officers to the Southern Army. Another family furnished two or more, and there were other families of German blood, that furnished individual soldiers who were equally distinguished. Besides these soldiers of Pennsylvania-German descent from the South, I know of at least two instances, where men claimed the individual right to decide for themselves the side upon which they should serve and who, though living in Pennsylvania at the time, decided to cast their lots with the South.

In speaking of those men of Pennsylvania-German blood in the Southern army I must not fail to tell you of an incident about which I have often spoken with pleasure. I remember well the descendant of old Lancaster County stock, to whom it relates—the adopted son of a southern city, identified with the people of the south by marriage and by every other interest except that of birth. He had entered the Southern army as a subordinate officer, and had risen to distinction in the famous Army of Northern Virginia—an army which had in it as many men of distinction and heroic courage as any army that ever existed on earth in any war. He was a little older than we young fellows of the staff, and had become somewhat bald. He loved to be with young girls, and that too, the prettiest he could find and we were half jealous of the reception they

gave him because of his distinguished career and fame. A few week before the city of Petersburg was evacuated I attended a Lenten service at the old St. Paul's church in that city. It was in range of the guns of the Federal army, but that did not deter the young ladies from attending the service and did not deter the young men who could get away from the army with passes or could get away without being required to have a pass, from flocking to the evening service. One bright March afternoon when the wind was blowing a great gale around the corners of the church while we were waiting outside after the service was over for the young ladies whom we were expecting and whom we were in the habit of admiring to come out, this Pennsylvania-Dutchman made his appearance at the top of the steps with a Miss Bolling, a descendant of Pocahontas and John Rolfe, a member of one of the most noted families of Virginia. Possessed of a most charming personality, an elegant figure, rosy cheeks and exquisite beauty, she was as enticing a picture as one could wish to see. By her side was our friend. As she stood there for a moment, the wind caught her skirts and fluttered them in the air. The same gust caught the chapeau of our gallant friend, adorned with gold lace all around it, and as it was swept around the corner of the church he had to trip down the steps and engage in an unseemingly sort of race to catch it, while mischievous beauty stood at the top of the steps and laughed at his discomfiture. But he got his hat all the same and went off with the beauty in triumph. She afterwards became the wife of the most distinguished son of Robert E. Lee — General Rooney Lee. There was no discredit to the Pennsylvania-German stock in the career and fame of that son of Lancaster County, and there should be no refusal it seems to me in this Society to

feel a generous pride in the story of the achievements which were held to entitle him to associate with the fairest and best of earth.

Let this Society move onward with its noble work. Its records have already become imperishable. What it has done is immortal. Let it move on to greater triumph. Let us have from competent hands the history of the Pennsylvania-German element in the wars of colonial times; the history of the same element in the War of the Revolution; in the war of 1812, and in the war with Mexico. Then a grand volume as the history of the Pennsylvania-German element in the Federal armies in the War for the Union, and another volume almost as pretentious and no less heroic or absorbing as the history of the Pennsylvania-German element in the armies of the Confederacy as constituting no feeble or imperfect part in the history of our beloved country.

The Society, which you welcome to your hospitable borders to-day—let me add—is one to which I as a Southerner am proud to belong, and if I have that sort of pride, I think I can speak for the sons of Pennsylvania who have a special right to claim that it is an honor to be of its members. We thank you for the welcome you have given us. We shall endeavor to do no discredit to the very gracious and princely manner in which you have received us, and we feel sure we shall carry back with us such pleasing and intensely gratifying recollections of our stay among you that will make this meeting of the Pennsylvania-German Society the most noted of its existence.

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## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The annual address of the President, the Rev. Joseph A. Seiss, D.D., LL.D., L.H.D., was then read.

*Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Pennsylvania-German Society.*

The Constitution of this Society prescribes, that, at this point of its proceedings, its President is to deliver an Address. As Constitutions are meant to be obeyed, my present duty would seem to be clear and imperative. I will therefore endeavor to fulfill it.

It was a good and wholesome thought, on the part of men of our generation, which moved them to form and sustain a Society looking to the securement of a just and proper record of the lines, deeds and virtues of their ancestors, domiciled on Pennsylvania territory when our Country was in incipient formation and nascent youth.

It may be accepted as an axiom, that the people who take no pride in the lines and deeds of their ancestral kin can hardly expect to make a record for themselves which their descendants will recall with admiration or note with reverent regard.

It is also due to truth that the world should have a correct knowledge of the histories, principles, and activities of the peoples influential in fashioning our American civilization, and in the making of our State and Country.

Much has been commendably done in this line respecting those of other blood than those represented in this Society; but, prior to the past decade, only meagre, unfair, and often untrue, were the accounts current touching our ancestors, settled upon these western shores and familiarly called the Pennsylvania-Germans. People of other

racess or derivations, participant in the formation of American Society and institutions, have had ample and merited notice and record in the Country's annals. The reading public, and the schools have been favored with many glowing pages respecting the Virginia Colonists, the New England Puritans, the Quakers, the Hollanders, the Scotch-Irish, and the Huguenots; but very little was ever said, and that little often grossly miscolored, respecting the class whence the members of this association have descended, although their priority and worth in the formation of our great Republic, entitle them to a far more honorable place in history than has been awarded them.

Not for a moment would I criticise the zeal and fervency with which the descendants of other classes have set forth in eulogistic eloquence, song and historic statement, what their ancestors were and did in influencing and fashioning the life and character of the Institutions of this new world. In those great achievements there is "glory enough for all." Nevertheless it is not to be suppressed or overlooked that men and women of Germanic blood and culture, and in large numbers, had part in the business, and were not mere cyphers in the creation, moulding, and maintenance of our common inheritance; and whose story, when fully told, will be found as full of interest as that of the most emphasized and lauded.

Dr. Stille, himself a distinguished historian and scholar, has put upon record, that, "Of all the races which settled on the soil of Pennsylvania, the German forms a very important part of the bed-rock of the civilization of the State. What can a man know of that civilization who is ignorant of the special history of the Pennsylvania-Germans! Much that is falsely called history has been written without such knowledge."

Hence the need of such an organization as this Society, animated with activity and zeal to bring forth the facts with reference to these people and their descendants, who have been too little understood, and quite too cavalierly treated.

It would be ungenerous and unjust to attribute this ignoring and desparagement of the Pennsylvania-Germans, to any ill intent on the part of writers on American History. Most of them, doubtless, honestly did the best they knew and believed, but from disadvantageous standpoints and without the necessary research to qualify them to do justice to the subject. In the absence of such investigation, writers naturally would be influenced by prepossessions in favor of people with whom they were better acquainted. It is also much easier to compass and master the history of those whose records are all accessible in the language of the writers, than to form just estimates of people of other tongues, and less within easy reach of one's personal knowledge and observation. At least, historians and narrators are human, with their share of human infirmities. Even when they think they have everything in hand for accurate and full statement, mistakes, partialities, miscolorings, omissions, and defects of judgment, are liable to occur, and re-writing and supplements become necessary to bring out "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Popular impressions and traditions also are not altogether trustworthy, as I have found, on a small scale, concerning myself even in the worthy publications of this Society, Vol. VI., p. 109.

As to the people called the Pennsylvania-Germans, the defects, omissions, and misapprehensions that have again and again appeared in our national literature, were, for long time, so marked and so deeply felt by the founders



of this Society that they deemed it well worth their while to band together in an organized effort to gather and present to the public a better and true account of these people, particularly as participants and factors in the formation of the life and civilization of this great state and nation.

It is not assumed or pretended by the members of this Society that we shall be able to make report on regions so unknown and difficult of access as the North pole; nor to rival the work of the Palestine Exploring Fund; nor to watch the exhumations of Schlieman at Mycenæ, or Flinders Petrie in Egypt; nor to recover lost records of extinct peoples as the Hittites of antiquity, or such marvellous archeological finds as reported from the mounds of Nippur by the commissions of our own Pennsylvania University. Nevertheless, we count on bringing to light many items of fact, biography, incident, and honorable achievement, of historic interest and worth, touching one of our own home peoples. And as it is the chief end and purpose of this Association "to perpetuate the memory and foster the principles and virtues of the German ancestors of its members," we deem it worthy of the respect and encouragement of all generous minded Americans, and especially of all descendants of the Pennsylvania-Germans, and representatives of their blood.

This Society was organized, April 15, 1891. It can hardly be said to be a dozen years old. But in these few years of its existence, and only now entering upon its teens, it can point to some noble and effective work, which has been impressing the writers of history, and will much more impress them as the years roll on. It has also attracted to itself men of character, position, influence, and literary eminence, whose aid will tell. And, on the ground of its aim and merits, I may say that its membership should be many times double what it is.

The publications of this Society already number eleven volumes, from one hundred to five hundred pages each. A brief index of the chief topics treated, which our painstaking and worthy Secretary has furnished, is itself a neat little booklet. Libraries, Historical Societies, Colleges, and students of the history of our country, apply for these volumes, and entire editions of some of them have been quite exhausted, and out of print. In these books, a large body of varied and detailed historical data and fact, heretofore but little known, and largely inaccessible, has been given to the English-reading public.

With much interest and edification I have myself gone through these ample volumes. I have found in them Historical Papers, Addresses, Translations of rare and valuable Records, special Histories, enlightening Treatises, and varied Documents, some so elaborate and exhaustive as to show the patient and persevering research characteristic of the German mind. Some of the speeches given, glow with eloquence and blaze with fact and feeling. And those who carefully and appreciatively read these books will be surprised by the richness and value of their rare contents.

If any one wishes to learn the affecting story of the Pennsylvania-Germans, — their advent and place in this Commonwealth, — their principles, sufferings and virtues, — their language and literature, — their educational ideas and influence, — what they and their descendants have done and are doing in the various departments of human activity and usefulness, including natural science, statesmanship, law, medicine, journalism, authorship, church, school, and state, these volumes will furnish help not elsewhere to be found.

And it is worthy of note to the credit of this Society,

that its creation and productions have awakened a wholesome interest in its themes, touched and inspired other hearts, and moved other pens and publishers. Book after book, relating to the field we have started to cultivate, has appeared, some of these of large and permanent value, and others which received their stimulus, and partly their materials, from the records of this Society, and the writings and researches of its members.

But, with all, the work to be done is only in its primary stages. We have successfully opened a mine of which we are able to show only a few specimens; but they are such as give promise of rich results to those who have the patience, perseverance and intelligence to dig for them. Evidently, "There remaineth yet much land to be possessed." Some of the topics thus far treated still await completion, and sundry others have not been touched, or only incidentally, which need to be thoroughly examined and formally elaborated. There be many public and private records and documents bearing upon the subjects of our inquiries which remain to be sought for, consulted, and reported.

It would be a matter of interest, in the tracing of our remoter pedigree, to know more about the Norsemen, and their race-relationship to our Teutonic ancestry; especially as the first permanent settlement on the soil which became Pennsylvania was made by these Norseland people, from whom it is claimed that Washington himself was descended.

It is also important to our aims to ascertain more fully the number and proportion of Germans included in the Swedish Colony on the Delaware, and the influence of the Germans in determining the liberal Christian principles on which the Colony was fashioned and conducted; particu-

larly, as the Prime Minister under whom it was established was, by birth and education, a German.

Of equal historic interest would it be to have a full and correct account of what Germans and Germanic peoples and ideas had to do with the formation and success of the colony of William Penn, and his indebtedness to them for the development and efficiency of those features of his administration for which he is most commended and lauded. Apart from the charter which he received from the king of England, his activities were with the Germans and the Germanic peoples more than with the English, and his dependence upon them was much greater than is generally supposed. The world still awaits an authentic account of these particulars.

There is also a very wide field for investigation and report concerning this Pennsylvania-German race, in this and many other states, during the past two hundred years — a field which bristles with distinguished personal biographies, patriotic fidelities, heroic adventures, brilliant achievements, and varied successes in peace and war, in church and state — a field which largely lies fallow, and without distinctive credit to our Pennsylvania-German blood, a full portraiture and valuation of which, in these United States, remains to be given, and should be carefully traced. Much valuable and surprising information would doubtless thus be elicited.

Very distinguished in its history and status is this grand old Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Although founded largely by sectarists and dissenters, they were men of faith and piety, and the friends and advocates of freedom and righteousness. Montesquiere is witness that her formation was “an instance, unparalleled in the world’s history of the foundation of a great state laid in peace, justice, and

equality." Her fundamental principles, from which she has never departed, were, at the period of their adoption, far in advance of all other American Colonies, and so reasonable and moderate as to find general adoption, while no one yet has found cause to fault them.

In weight and force, as well as in geographical location, Pennsylvania was the Keystone in the arch of the original thirteen States ; and, with all the advancement and expansion of the nation, that place she still influentially holds. The old law : " As Pennsylvania goes, so goes the nation," has had very few exceptions in fact. From her very start, she was foremost in conserving what fashioned and most distinguishes the great Union of free States under the flag of stars and stripes designed by a woman of Pennsylvania.

Six generations of stalwart patriots have risen and passed in comfort and happiness under the shielding care and tutelage of this great Commonwealth ; and most liberally has she contributed to the peopling of other States, built in the beauty of her own likeness, and rejoicing in the sunshine of the same blessed Union. Her genial spirit has penetrated far and wide, and now pulsates from ocean to ocean, and around the world, and will thus continue to pulsate so long as this nation lives, and its principles abide in force among men.

It was in Pennsylvania's chief city that the colonial representatives met when first moving toward national existence ; that the declaration of our Independence was written and passed ; that the Federal Constitution was framed and sent out for adoption. Here the great Washington presided as head of the Convention which formulated the Constitution, and then as the first President under it.

Pennsylvania was the first to recognize and treat the red

men of the forest as people with human souls and human rights; and her citizens were the first on this side of the sea to raise protest against the buying and selling of negroes.

Pennsylvania was prompt and prominent in the struggles for our independence, and ever dutiful and faithful to her place and pledges as a member of the great Confederation. Nor was there a State to excel her in promptness, energy and self-sacrifice in defence of the Union which she had so much helped to establish. And from the beginning until now, Pennsylvania's contributions, in men, measures, and everything pertaining to our nation's strength and glory, abundantly demonstrate her right to her exalted eminence in the constellation of our united sovereignties.

Meanwhile, what about the people of Teutonic blood, who constituted so large a part of Pennsylvania's population from its very beginning until this present? Sprung from a race whose superior virtues were eulogized by the Roman historian, Tacitus, eighteen hundred years ago, and whose just estimate of them all history since has confirmed, had they no part or share in the illustrious achievement? Many of them, having been violently despoiled of their European homes, rights and possessions, because of their inflexible devotion to their convictions of truth, righteousness, and sacred duty, and having heroically braved unspeakable trials and hardships to reach the land of freedom and religious toleration, were they not embodiments of the very qualities of which alone great Commonwealths are made? And how could it be otherwise, than that from them should come great help in moulding the life and civilization of our State, and of the whole continent of North America.

Our Society has begun to give answer upon these points



and is constitutionally set to follow up the subject to a greater fullness of the showing. A few impressive facts have come to me which I here may note.

It is a fact, that the first two men who exercised governmental rule on Pennsylvania territory were Germans. The greatest drill-master in Washington's army, and the wise military counsellor of its commander, was a German. A large proportion of those composing that army, were Germans or of German extraction. The men and women who did most to clothe and feed that army in its time of greatest need and destitution—to shelter and nurse its sick and wounded, and to give decent burial to its dead, were of the same Germanic peoples. One of the ablest generals in the revolutionary struggles, whose bravery turned the scale in the final victory, was of the same blood, and a Pennsylvanian, whose father was one of the most efficient missionaries and church organizers this country ever had. The first Speaker of the House of Representatives of the first Congress of the United States was a Pennsylvanian and a member of the same family. About a dozen of the Governors of this Commonwealth were the sons of Pennsylvania-Germans, some of whom were the foremost advocates of what has done so much for the general benefit of our population. And the man who now occupies and adorns that high office, is of the same German blood and lineage, and an honored member of this Society, whose literary contributions have greatly added to the influence of its publications. And we need only search the records to find that the Germans of Pennsylvania and their descendants in this and many other states, have been, and are, among the most useful, patriotic and distinguished citizens, in industrial, commercial, legislative, judicial, military, educational, ecclesiastical,

literary and every other department of activity and influence.

Few there have been to investigate the history of this people, and to speak for them as they deserve, and those who have spoken have mostly failed to understand them or to do them justice. Much honor therefore to the founders and members of this society for its successful establishment, for its noble purpose to investigate and put upon open record the dormant facts in the stirring history of the Pennsylvania-Germans and their descendants, and for the marked success which has already attended its efforts. May its achievements in the past be the prophecy and beginning of greater accomplishments in the future!

And now, before I close, bear with me for a remark which may not be altogether acceptable, but which I deem worthy of the Society's consideration.

I notice in the proceedings of the meeting of 1894, that the gentleman selected to welcome the Society, said, "A few days ago I was asked, seriously, whether the address of welcome would be made in Pennsylvania-German!" So also, after the adjournment of last year's convention, a leading Philadelphia daily printed a notice of us in these words: "*The Germans had a meeting in Norristown last night and elected Dr. Seiss President*"! That was the whole report! And only a few days ago, I was asked by one of the city clergy, whether I was to give my present address in German!

As I do not count myself a German, nor an adept in the use of the German language, my thoughts turned to the Name and Title of our Association, and the conclusion reached was that it is misleading to outsiders, and unfavorable to the repute and advancement of our cause. As I understand it ours is not a German Society, nor a Society

of Germans. It is a question whether it has a German in it, or can have. Nor are all our members resident Pennsylvanians. Whether by birth, language, or citizenship, we are not proper Germans, nor even all Pennsylvania-Germans, although we are all descendants of Germans, who, from three to five generations back settled upon what is now Pennsylvania territory. Most of us have our homes in this State, and most of us understand, and some of us speak the German language, *und auch Pennsylvanisch Deutsch*; but no member of our *Gesellschaft* is in any proper sense a *German*, except in remote extraction. Sprung from Pennsylvania-Germans, we are all *Americans*, and all use the English language. Our official transactions are all conducted in English. Our Constitution and By-laws exist only in English. Our form of application for membership is exclusively English. All our publications are in English, except a few illustrations here and there to show what the dialect of Pennsylvania-German is. And the language of our Society, as such, is in fact, entirely English—the prevailing language of our common Country, its courts, its laws and its principal schools, whatever facilities our members may possess in the use of other tongues.

But nothing of this appears, or is at all recognized, in our present name, which, on the contrary, suggests what is not literally true, and creates, as it has created, the erroneous impression that we are foreign Germans, merely resident in Pennsylvania. Hence it is not strange that outsiders, who know no better, should so rate and advertise us.

It is, therefore, my feeling and belief, which I here venture to express that it would be well to consider the question of a change of our Society's name, and to invent one which will better describe what we are, and which will not

so much confuse and mislead those who have no other means of knowing us. It may not be kindly taken that a comparatively new comer should so speak. And if so be that any are displeased with the suggestion, I beg that my temerity may be excused, as I have only expressed what I believe would be of value to our cause.

And now, with thanks to the Society for the honors it has conferred upon me, and to this audience for its patient attention to what I have said, I conclude this address.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The annual report of the Secretary, H. M. M. Richards, was then presented.

*Gentlemen:* — While the amount of work done by your Executive Committee, and the Secretary, during the year just happily concluded, has been by no means light or easy, yet it has been of a character rather to be demonstrated by results than by words. Therefore, my report for this meeting will be necessarily brief, and fortunately so as that, in itself, is an indication of the fact that we have been wafted, during the past months, by gentle and pleasant breezes over a smooth sea, and have not been buffeted by adverse storms nor tossed about on the angry waves of adversity.

Unfortunately, the result of some of our work has not yet been made apparent to the members. Because of sickness mainly, and through other entirely unavoidable causes of delay, our annual volume is not yet in their hands. I am glad to report, however, that it is now practically ready for issue, and I feel assured that everyone will be amply repaid, shortly, for the annoyance to which they have been subjected.

Our membership has now reached the encouraging total of 456. We have received during the year 50 accessions to our number, and have been called upon to lament the loss of 5 by death.

“Without haste, without rest,” we have been steadily pushing forward towards the high mark which has been set before us as our goal. May the same divine guidance, which was a shield and protection to our fathers, continue to be with us until we attain the end.

Respectfully,

H. M. M. RICHARDS,  
*Secretary.*

TREASURER'S REPORT PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN  
SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
OCTOBER 1, 1903.

Cash on hand October 1, 1902, as per report.

Life account.....	\$250.00
General account.....	632.49
Dues received.....	684.00
Book acct. received.....	256.00
Certificate acct.....	3.00
	<u>\$1,825.49</u>
Cr. by Vouchers.....	314.55
	<u>\$1,510.94</u>

Cash in bank.....1,505.69

“ on hand..... 5.25

\$1,510.95

Dues received since closing report

October 1..... 606.00

Total Cash to Society's Cr. \$2,116.94

Respectfully submitted,

JULIUS F. SACHSE,  
*Treasurer.*

The report of the Treasurer was referred to an auditing committee, composed of the following gentlemen: Dr. Daniel W. Nead, Dr. W. H. Reed and Rev. J. W. Early, who in due time reported having examined the accounts and found them to be correct.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers which then took place resulted as follows: President, Rev. Joseph A. Seiss, D.D., LL.D., L.H.D., of Philadelphia, Pa.; Vice-Presidents, Henry Clay Grittinger, of Lebanon, Pa., and Ira Christian Schock, of Selinsgrove, Pa.; Secretary, H. M. M. Richards, of Lebanon, Pa.; Treasurer, Julius F. Sachse, Litt.D., of Philadelphia, Pa., Executive Committee, Rev. Theo. E. Schmauk, D.D., of Lebanon, Pa., and Rev. Nathan C. Schaeffer, Ph.D., D.D., of Lancaster, Pa.

The morning session came to a fitting close with the reading of a "Brief Historical Sketch of Lebanon and Surroundings" by the Rev. P. C. Croll, of Lebanon, Pa.

#### LEBANON AND ITS ENVIRONS; A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Fitting words of greeting have already been spoken, welcoming to this city of and by the Pennsylvania-Germans this distinguished body of well-blooded, lofty-purposed sons of the Saxon immigrant. Suitable words of response, by a chosen spokesman of our honored guests, have followed this greeting. It has been deemed additionally appropriate by our local committee to have appended to these words of welcome a brief historical account of the founding and important events in the checkered life of this city and community. In fact it was presumed that this society, in spite of cordial greetings, might find itself in



the situation of a certain legislative body, which, lost in a maze of unravelable entanglement in the course of a confusing discussion, found it necessary for someone to move that a search be instituted to answer the puzzling query; "Where, after all, are we at?" Believing that many of you are comparative strangers to the birth, life and growth of this municipality and its environs, whither you have to be sojourners for a day or two, I have been chosen to give you a brief introduction to the historical, biographical, educational, social, religious and industrial life of this town of Colonial birth, of German founding, and of sturdy thrift and enterprise. I will, therefore, attempt to set forth in a few hastily gathered, local annals the story of this city, which George Steitz founded on the Quittapahilla more than one hundred and fifty years ago, and whose present Scriptural name was awaiting it before its birth, having been first given to a township of its original county by a band of German Jewish traders, whose fur-trading post was in this vicinity.

It is more than 175 years since the first pale-faced pilgrims strolled along this Indian-named creek that divides our present city. It is at least that long ago since the industrious and cunning hands of these early pioneers reared their first rude cabins of log along its banks. While the first foreign comers to these parts reached it from the southeast, by way of the port at Philadelphia, there was a simultaneous wave of immigration by way of the New York Harbor, thence by the Hudson, Mohawk, Schoharie, Susquehanna, and Swatara valleys. Both these waves of immigration were German and came from the valleys of the Rhine, the Weser, the Neckar, and the Main. Its constituents came to take up permanant abode along the famous water-courses of this rich and beautiful valley.

This occurred in the third decade of the 18th century, and this was the first meeting of the Pennsylvania-Germans in this far-famed community. The only local committee of arrangements to greet these early comers on their arrival were the prowling Indians and the wild beasts. While feathery warblers and the liquid melody of its babbling brooks and the silvery sounds of its splashing streams, the Tulpehocken, the Quittapahilla, and the Swatara furnished the music for their entertainment. At once the babblings of these streams were changed to suit their German ears.

“’Twas Yorrick Steitz and Hannes Licht and Peter Kucher, who  
On either bank now reared their homes to grow quite well-to-do,  
The Kreiders, Orths, and Horsts came next, this influx grew so  
much,  
These streams their babbling had to change, from Indian into  
Dutch.”

Soon Penn's primeval forests in this region began to echo the stroke of the woodman's axe, and presently the plowman's voice and the hum of the gristmill's wheel were heard. In every cabin door was spoken the tongue of the sturdy Saxon, and at every fireside it was daily raised to Heaven in the songs and prayers of the pious Palatine. Humble, scattered homes were everywhere reared, roads and highways opened, forests felled, houses of worship built and domestic necessities manufactured in rudely constructed shops, forges, factories and mills. But the language that was everywhere spoken, on the field and in the factory, in church and at home, was that which was native in our common German Fatherland.

There are still to be found among us a few household relics and architectural landmarks of these pioneers. If any of you should find time to walk through some of our city's oldest streets you would see probably a dozen or

more of the first houses — low, one-storied cabins — built here fully a century and a half ago, while in not a few homes are preserved the almost sacred domestic relics of these ancestors in the shape of plain but substantial household implements, furniture and tools. Among these curios are clocks, chests, spinning-wheels, fowling pieces, pewter and china-ware and a few yellow thumb-marked German Bibles and books of devotion. A few of the most ancient and historic landmarks of this immediate community have recently been dismantled and destroyed. But we yet have several conspicuous architectural relics of the eighteenth century. At Eleventh and Maple streets of this city stands to-day the old Light fort, substantially as it was erected by John Light (Johannes Licht) in 1742. It is a two-and-a-half storied stone building erected over a spring, with arched cellar, air-flues, port-holes instead of windows, and a broken or hip-roof. It is known to have served the purposes of residence, house of worship, brewery, freight wharf, fortification for first settlers against the Indians, and in latter days has become a shelter for negroes, tramps, sparrows and bats. But its well-built walls still stand, secure against all uses and abuses. It is locally most commonly known as “Light’s Old Fort,” because within the period of Indian depredation, during the French and Indian Wars, it safely sheltered as many as sixty white families at one time.

Another still older structure is the stone mill, about two miles west of town which the Rev. John Casper Stoeber built in 1737–1740. Whilst it was originally built as residence and mill, it became a sort of missionary headquarters and rendezvous for the scattered German settlers on the Quittapahilla. A few years previous (1733) this active and inveterate Lutheran pastor had founded a mission

station by the securing of church lands from the proprietaries, the organization of a congregation, and the building, on a conspicuous shelf of the gravel hill that overlooks this valley, of the first church edifice in these parts. This church, located about two and one-half miles west of town, is variously known in old documents as the Hill Church ("Die Berg Kirche"), and "the Church on the Quittapahille." Within its first rude edifice hewn logs served as seats and racks were provided for the trusty flint-locks and other fire-arms the devout worshippers were compelled to carry with them in self-defence against surprises from their hostile Indian neighbors. This church, with many others scattered over half a dozen counties of the State, and in several of the other colonies, was served by this energetic Lutheran circuit rider of those eventful Colonial days before he had taken up his residence here. After occupying his newly built mill-manse, he, for forty years supplied his flock with bread both for body and soul from this mission center in the wilderness. When Indian troubles brewed in the community a stockade was built about the home, the ruins of which may yet be traced as evidence that here was found covert and shelter for many from both bodily and spiritual death. Yet Death found its way also within these substantial walls. When on Ascension Day, May 13, 1779, the shepherd's infirmities necessitated a class of catechumens to come to his home for confirmation, he had scarcely finished this final ministerial act of the laying on of his pastoral hands upon these young confessors, when his spirit took its flight to the home of its ascended Lord, whom he had served so long and energetically. His ashes are mouldering in the old "God's-acre" on the hillside, whither his flock either preceded or succeeded him. A fitting monument was raised to his honor and unveiled a little over eight years ago.

Another historic center of that early period is located on the banks of this same Quittapahilla, about a mile to the east of our present meeting-place. Here such staunch German pilgrims as the Orths, Kuchers, Krauses, and Lights had made settlement in the third and fourth decades of this colonial century. Homes, mills and workshops had been reared, when the missionary zeal of the Moravian community, which had located at Bethlehem, on the Lehigh, sent its heralds into these parts and, under the direction of Count Zinzendorf, after making converts of these Germans, proceeded to erect a church or prayer-saal. The land for this purpose was donated by Balthazar Orth, the grandsire of the celebrated statesman of Indiana, the late Hon. Godlove S. Orth. In 1750 this church was consecrated and the community received the name of Hebron, after the ancient Israelitish city of refuge and the scene of King David's first coronation. This edifice of the Moravians was destined to have a long and eventful history. For over a century and a half it stood and weathered the storms of nature and national strife without, and the political and ecclesiastical excitement within. For over a century it housed the different presiding shepherds of the flock and their families, who left us many volumes of well-written memorabilia, still in hand, of the congregation's and the community's life. It chronicles the routine and the eventful incidents, the weather and the crops, the discipline of an unruly member or the preaching of the church's bishop, the incarceration here and unruly behavior, for many months, of several hundred Hessian prisoners, and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to General Washington at Yorktown. The walls of this historic edifice of stone, were ruthlessly taken down only a year ago, to make room for modern-day improvements. In the

nearby God's-acre sleep the old worthies of this flock, together with one of their bishops (Koehler). On at least one memorial-stone the fact is recorded that the buried man came to his death at the hands of the butchering Indians.

Were I to lead you farther into the surrounding country, it would be possible to map out a pilgrimage that is rich in historic lore and abundant in the ancient shrines and landmarks it embraces. It would include old Schaefferstown, eight miles away, first known as Heidelbergtown, which holds a hostelry where once flung out the sign of King George the Third; a church edifice, erected ten years before the outbreak of our Revolutionary War, built by the great-grandfather of the late Dr. Wm. Pepper, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, as chief carpenter, where-in the second son of the patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America, Frederick Augustus Conrad Muhlenberg, afterwards the honored statesman and first speaker of the lower house of our national Congress, for three years preached the word of life; the first public water-works in the United States, which has supplied the town uninterruptedly, with the best of beverages, for more than a hundred and fifty years; and the ruins of an ancient Jewish synagogue and of Baron Stiegel's castle, where that early Pennsylvania-German, iron magnate occasionally lived and received in knightly splendor, long before that other and modern-day Pennsylvania-German millionaire and steel-making, Chas. M. Schwab, had guided the largest business combination of the world to the highest notch of dividend-paying with one hand, and tossed about as a plaything one of the largest ship-building enterprises with the other. Such pilgrimage would lead down the peaceful Millcreek Valley, where reposes the dust of that German religious enthusiast and servant of God, who founded the religious



denomination known as the Evangelical Association, and died as its first bishop—Jacob Albright. It would lead past the old colonial homesteads, where its first German occupants fought the Indians or kept colored slaves, while their homes held mural legends like these :

“Gott, besegne dieses Haus  
Und alles was da geht ein und'aus.”

Below and above this stream's confluence with the Tulpehocken stretches the historic region made famous by Conrad Weiser and his pious and persevering Palatine refugees. Here every name has a story, every farm a chapter, every church an epic and every church-yard an unwritten elegy. Here volumes of Pennsylvania-German history lie buried, and here names are inwoven that the historian might well conjure with, the poet dream over, the philosopher study, the theologian discuss and the biographer write in letters of gold.

But it becomes me to-day to confine myself more closely to our queen city of the valley, bearing a Scriptural name and wearing a girdle of iron and steel<sup>2</sup> about her waist, and a chaplet of iron and copper on her Cornwallian brow. And so I shall speak of a few of the more salient events and mention the more eminent names in the history of this city, which has to-day received you into its hospitable embrace.

With the dawn of the sixth decade of the eighteenth century a certain pious and thrifty German, by the name of George Steitz, had taken up his abode on the banks of the “Snakehole” Creek, between the Moravian settlement on the east and the Lutheran settlement on the west, had laid out a part of his plantation into a town-plot, and was selling building-lots. Twenty-five years afterward the

village was essentially a German *dorf*, transferred to America, with its one-story, low-roofed, small-roomed homes strung along its streets, which centered about a market-square. The artisan shops for weaver and clock-maker, for carpenter and blacksmith, for cobbler and gunsmith were going up on every side. Churches and school-houses had moved to town and the faithful preacher gave his people learned discourses by the hour, while the irate teacher gave his flock hickory and birchen lessons by the yard. But everybody spoke the language of the Fatherland. The cook mixed her corn muffins, the baker kneaded his bread, the farmer sold his produce, the teacher whipped his boys, the preacher prayed to God, and the teamster swore at his oxen in Pennsylvania-“Dutch.”

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary war this town had among its citizens a goodly number of brave patriots and doughty old warriors. Among the most conspicuous names are three Philips, though neither of them descended from Philip of Macedon, against whom the celebrated philipics of Demosthenes were hurled. The first of those was Col. Philip Greenawalt, whose ashes repose in one of our church-yards and whose honored descendants are with us to-day; the second was Gen. J. Philip DeHaas, whose record is conspicuous in that long-continued struggle for liberty and independence, covering two wars, one with the French the other with the English peoples, and one of whose descendants to-day greeted you in welcome as the official head of this municipality; and the third Philip was Col. Philip Marsteller, who assisted in raising a home regiment and other troops in 1775-6, was militia paymaster, agent and foragemaster, for which services he received a personal letter of thanks from General Washington, and was honored in the selection as one of the six

pall-bearers at President Washington's funeral in 1799. The Revolutionary regiment formed by the first-named of these patriots, from citizens of what is now Lebanon County, had nine or ten captains all of whom, with one exception, bore honored German names. These were Stoever, Weiser, Null, Holderbaum, Immel, Shoufler, Schaeffer and Oldenbruck. The regiment was among the first to report for duty, as our Pennsylvania-German boys have actually been the very first to answer the call to arms that the heads of our nations have issued in every war since. And their service was everywhere gallant and heroic. While these Lebanon boys were preparing for the Revolutionary fray, their brothers were either holding indignation-meetings and condemning the mother country for closing the port at Boston, or were at work in their gun-factories forging the weapons of defence, or, in a later period, building wagons and collecting clothes and provisions and other supplies for the army.

It was in the periods immediately preceding and succeeding the Revolutionary war that the church-life of those early citizens was developed. In 1760 George Steitz and in 1763 a Lebanon Land company, of which the Rev. J. Casper Stoever was chairman, deeded church lots to the Mt. Tabor Reformed and to the Salem Lutheran congregations respectively, for an annual ground-rental of one red rose if the same should be lawfully demanded. Their second large stone edifices, erected in the latter part of the 18th century, stand to-day, in the beginning of the 20th, as monuments of the piety and thrift of those early generations. The latter building lifts its venerable and well-built walls in close proximity to this beautiful, Memorial, architectural century-plant, in which we are now gathered. Its towering, stone belfry has a metal tongue that was

made to speak in a celebrated English bell-foundry of London, more than a century and a quarter ago, but has spoken only German since on American soil; and, swinging high in air, has beckoned four or five generations of our citizens the way towards heaven, and, while announcing fires on earth, has ever had a warning voice for Lebanon sinners to shun the fires of the pit beneath. These churches have had long lists of learned and devout pastors. Those of the reformed have included such Teutonic names as Miller, Stoy, Conrad Bucher, Runkle, Lorentz, Lupp, Heister, Kroh, Wagner, Kramer, Klopp and Bromer. The Lutheran flock has been faithfully shepherded by such illustrious pastors as Stoever, Muhlenberg, Kurtz, Lochman, Ernst, Ruthrauff, Krotel, Hoffman, Miller, Trabert, and Schmauk, father and son, with their assistants, Pfatteicher and Leibensperger. The present senior pastor, besides having been the honored president of this body, has achieved fame for his preaching and his many literary labors and extensive authorship, and to-day fills the highest office in the gift of his church as the presiding officer of that denomination's general body. Both these mother churches, like ecclesiastical banyan trees, have let down their roots in the organization of about half a dozen offshoots, that are flourishing churches to-day and have had able and prominent ministers. The most worthy of mention among all these, in a convention of Pennsylvania-Germans, is the celebrated Henry Harbaugh, father of Pennsylvania-German poetry, who, while, the first pastor of St. John's Reformed church of this city, wrote some of those pathetic and humorous lyrics in the dialect, which have made thousands sigh and smile, weep and laugh in one and the same breath.

The cause of education in this community has grown

from the kindergarten at the German mother's knee to the parochial school, the private academy, the pay-school, the public school with its graded curriculum, ending in a four-year high-school course of well-nigh college proportions. Meanwhile Lebanon has charmed about it on all sides these higher institutions of learning, so that its four sides may be said to be bulwarks of education. Flourishing colleges are both at our eastern and western gateways, at Myerstown and Annville, while the Mt. Gretna Chautauqua and Summer School crowns our southern stronghold and the defunct Schuylkill Seminary forms our northern barrier at Fredericksburg. There should be no ignorance in Lebanon County with such light houses set up on almost every hill. Among her many able teachers, worthy of mention, we name only a few whose later careers have given them wide renown. Such are the late I. D. Rupp, celebrated and voluminous historian of Pennsylvania; Henry Villard, the late noted railroad king and son-in-law to William Lloyd Garrison; Rose Elizabeth Cleveland, authoress and lady of the White house during the first term of her brother's incumbency; and last but not least, the Hon. Henry Houck, best known educational lecturer in the State, who for almost time immemorial has been the honored and hard-working deputy to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Among the eminent sons of little Lebanon, who may be pointed out as the tall cedars of Lebanon, we mention that Lindley Murray, the English grammarian, was born just outside its present western limits, that Governor John Andrew Shultze first saw the light of day on its eastern border, but resided long in this city, and in 1823 marched from the stone mansion on Market Square, now the residence of Dr. Lemberger, to occupy for six years the gub-

ernatorial mansion at Harrisburg. Hon. Godlove S. Orth of national fame, and once our country's Minister to Austria, and James Lick, the famous California millionaire, and builder of the Lick Observatory on the Pacific Coast, were sons of our soil, the offspring of German forebears. The late ex-Governor of Minnesota, Alexander Ramsey, was once a resident of this city, while the relatives of the late Gen. John D. Imboden of the Confederacy, abound in this county, whence his father removed before the Civil war. The noted illustrator of New York City, G. W. Peters, was born and reared here, while our town holds not a few men and women who are prominent in the medical, legal, ecclesiastical, political, literary, educational and reform circles of the day.

Among the visitors of this place let it be said that many eminent men and women have preceded you. Lebanon records among its eminent guests at least seven of the presidents of the United States and many more candidates for that high office; a long list of governors and statesmen of this and other states; and such a host of celebrities in the lecture field, of military and naval renown, of musical fame or of ecclesiastical prominence that it would seem like a catalog of names to have me repeat them. We want to assure you, however, that none were ever more welcome than you are to-day. For this purpose we have opened our homes and finest churches to you; we have flung open our inns and banqueting halls, where feasts await you, and we have arranged an excursion for you to see our most noted iron-mines and industries for which Lebanon in these latter days has become justly renowned. To give you a glimpse of our Cornwall ore-banks and furnaces and of the many busy factories and iron-mills that begirdle this city, and to be chaperoned by a personal guide,



familiar with their history and process of manufacture, is the best afternoon treat we could plan for you. It is to this local chaperon, therefore, that I leave you for the interesting history of these industries, in which Lebanon grinds out its bread, and to the local inns that I now hand you over for a sample of the bread that is here ground out. That this is abundant you have already seen in coming hither and may perceive again when you ride through our broad acres where the ripened corn is unsheathing its yellow ears. That life here is rich and golden, nature has typified for you by decorating forests and hedges, hills and valleys, with the crimson and yellow bunting of autumnal glory.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was opened at 1:00 P. M., by the reading of the Historical Paper of the day, entitled a "Curieuse Nachricht von Pennsylvanien in 1700," from the pen of Julius F. Sachse, Litt.D., being Daniel Falckner's "Accurate Tidings from Pennsylvania," the work which stimulated the German emigration in the beginning of the eighteenth century.

At the conclusion of this paper a delightful excursion was given all present to the wonderful Cornwall Ore Banks, thence to the beautiful Chautauqua grounds and site of military encampments at Mount Gretna, ending with a visit to some of the great blast furnaces of Lebanon in time to see a "cast" made.

#### THE EVENING.

The entertainment of the evening, which closed an unusually pleasant gathering, began at 7:30 P. M., with an exceptionally able and fine musical held in Zion Lutheran Church, on north Ninth Street, the building being crowded with a most select and appreciative audience.

COMPLIMENTARY MUSICAL RECITAL, ZION EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH.

Chorus of forty voices under direction of Henry W. Siegrist, Organist  
and Choir Master of the Church.

1. Organ — Fantasie in form of Offertoire.....*Berthold Tours.*
2. Chorus — "Hymn of the Apostles," "Redemption".....*Ch. Gounod.*
3. Tenor Solo — "My Redeemer and My Lord," from "Golden Legend,"  
*Arthur Sullivan.*

PROF. H. Z. LONG.

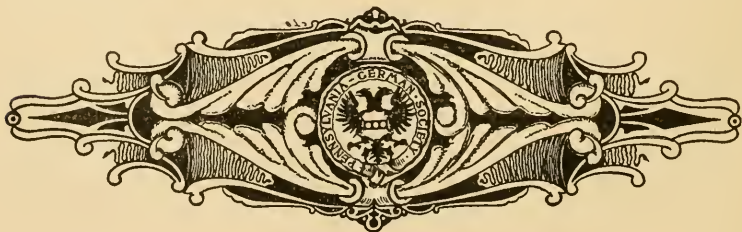
4. Chorus — "Be Not Afraid," "Elijah".....*F. Mendelssohn.*
5. Organ — "In Paradisium".....*Th. Dubois.*
6. Bass Aria — "O God, Have Mercy," "St. Paul".....*F. Mendelssohn.*

MR. HENRY HARBAUGH LINEAWEAVER.

7. Chorus — "Hallelujah," "Messiah".....*G. F. Handel.*

This was followed at 8:30 P. M., by the Banquet in the Sons of America Hall, 755 Cumberland Street, the music for which was most pleasingly rendered by the Philharmonic Orchestra, Benj. A. McComsey, Director. The following gentlemen responded to toasts, in a very fitting and interesting manner: "Our Pennsylvania-German Theologians," Rev. Jos. H. Dubbs, D.D., LL.D.; "Our Pennsylvania-German Journalists," Hon. B. F. Meyers; "Our Pennsylvania-German Soldiers," General J. P. S. Gobin; "The Pennsylvania-German in every and any capacity," O. S. Henninger, Esq.

Col. Thomas C. Zimmerman most ably presided as toastmaster.



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In Memoriam.

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**Hon. Lee L. Grumbine.**

Lee Light Grumbine was born in Fredericksburg, Lebanon county, Pa., July 25, 1858. His early ancestry emigrated to America from the Rhine country about the year 1755, and his genealogy connects him with the early Moravian settlements in eastern Pennsylvania, through his paternal great-grandfather, Peter Fuehrer, who was a Moravian teacher among the pioneer settlers of the New World. He was educated in the public schools, Palatinate College, and Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., graduating A.B. from the last named institution in 1881. In 1884 he received the degree A.M. from his alma mater. While in college he began the work of giving public elocutionary entertainments, which he long continued as a diversion, varying it with lecturing and teachers' institute work. In 1886 he was chosen instructor of elocution in Cornell University, but, through a misunderstanding, never entered upon the duties of the position.

After leaving college, Mr. Grumbine engaged in teaching and in the meantime studied law, being admitted to the bar of Lebanon county in 1884, and to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in 1887. For seven years he practiced law, a part of the time as a member of the firm of Gobin & Grumbine.

Mr. Grumbine's career was one of great versatility along various lines and it must be said that whatever he has attempted he has carried through successfully. His chief work was that of a lawyer. Quiet and unobtrusive in

manner, independent in conduct even to aggressiveness, without the employment of the arts of the politician, or the seeker of favor, by sheer force of his character, ability and rectitude of life, he commanded a leading position at the bar of his county, and enjoyed the confidence of a large clientage. He served continuously for many years as a member of the examining board of the bar. He was also a brilliant journalist.

In the famous Swallow campaign, in 1898, he took editorial charge of the Harrisburg Commonwealth, a Prohibition daily printed at the State capital, and always stood very closely to Dr. Swallow in his memorable fight. He was also one of defendant's counsel in the libel suits brought against Dr. Swallow. He resumed the practice of law in 1894, and has been prominent in many of the leading cases of the county.

Another field of activity in which Mr. Grumbine won distinction was that of literature and public speaking. He was a vigorous, convincing and yet graceful writer on many subjects, and contributed a number of valuable papers to different periodicals. He published a volume of poems and translations, which illustrate a prefatory treatise on the Pennsylvania-German language—a study of its status as a spoken dialect and form of literary expression with reference to its capabilities and limitations. His verses both in English and German breathe a genuine poetic spirit, and, as lyric songs and pictures of Pennsylvania-German life, gave him the rank of a real poet. He was a recognized authority on the Pennsylvania-German dialect, having made a close study of the provincialisms of eastern Pennsylvania, having their origin in German idioms and expressions, which he frequently treated in lectures.



Mr. Grumbine also displayed considerable talent in organizing or in the art of doing things. He was the prime mover in the organization of the Pennsylvania Chautauqua and a member of its first board of managers. He was also prominently instrumental in the organization of the Pennsylvania-German Society. He was a member of the executive committee of the society continuously ever since its organization. He was one of the leading spirits in the Lebanon County Historical Society since it was founded, and a member of its executive committee since its organization, and he contributed a number of papers to its publications. He planned and helped to organize the Lebanon County Trust Company, one of the flourishing financial institutions of this county, of which he was a director, vice-president and solicitor.

In politics Mr. Grumbine had been a Prohibitionist for twenty years, having by his labors, his earnest devotion to the cause and his forceful writing and speaking won a high place in the confidence and the councils of the party. He served for many years on the State Executive Committee and took a leading part in the party's conventions, presiding, on several occasions, and frequently serving as chairman of the committee on resolutions. He was the author of the Gettysburg platform of 1903, which committed the party to "license repeal" as the first step toward the solution of the liquor problem, and which was justly regarded as one of the strongest and most statesmanlike papers ever adopted by a political convention. It attracted wide attention. He was the Prohibition candidate for the office of lieutenant-governor in 1902, running a close second to Dr. Swallow for the nomination of governor. In 1900 he accompanied the Prohibition candidate for president on his tour through the State, and was one of

the leading speakers in that campaign. Serving in numerous capacities of trust and responsibility in private life, he never held a public office.

He was married, in 1881, to Roie E. Adams, of Naples, N. Y., and they have one son, LeRoy Adams Grumbine, a student in Oberlin College and Conservatory.

Mr. Grumbine was one of the foremost citizens of Lebanon. As a scholar, teacher, poet, lawyer, journalist and citizen, he was indeed a gifted man, whom the community can ill afford to lose. His sterling and unimpeachable integrity was one of his greatest virtues, and he valued his good name far above aught else. To his sorrowing family and friends he has left this as a priceless and imperishable legacy.

He became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society at its organization, was immediately elected as a member of its Executive Committee upon which he served with untiring fidelity and great ability to the day of his death. Its printed volumes contain various articles from his pen, of exceptional value and beauty, mention of which has already been made. When taken from our midst he was engaged on a "History of the Mennonites" for the use of the Society, upon which much time and research had been spent, and which bade fair to be of great value and interest.

His decease, resulting from inflammation of the bowels, occurred about 3:00 P. M. on Thursday, August 18, 1904.

H. M. M. R.

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**Hon. Jacob L. Steinmetz.**

Jacob L. Steinmetz, lawyer and banker, was for many years a leading citizen of Lancaster county. He descended from the virile German stock that early settled in Pennsylvania, and were closely identified with the early history of northern Lancaster county. His grandfather, Charles Steinmetz, was one of the founders of Ephrata borough. Jacob Steinmetz, the father of this sketch, was born near Ephrata. Upon reaching manhood he bought extensive tracts of land at South Annville, Lebanon county, and in 1851, while still in the prime of manhood, he passed away. His wife was Catharine Gross, daughter of John Gross, of Ephrata.

Hon. Jacob L. Steinmetz, was born at South Annville on August 22, 1845. After attending the public schools he was sent to the Annville Academy and Dickinson Seminary at Williamsport. He then took a course in the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, receiving the degrees of M.A. and B.L. At the University he was at one time president of the Webster Literary Society which materially aided in developing his forensic powers.

In 1870 Mr. Steinmetz entered upon the practice of law in this city. His career was one of success. In the practice of his profession his strength in great part lay in his pertinacity and searching cross-examinations. He had an excellent preparation and kept well versed. In leaf tobacco cases he was very frequently a counsel, and in this particular line was notably successful.

In politics Mr. Steinmetz was a staunch Democrat. In 1876 he was a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Tilden, and the same year was elected to the Legislature from the city district. After serving one term he practically withdrew from politics and devoted his energies to his profession and business interests. In January, 1890, he was elected President of the People's National Bank, and two years later helped to organize the People's Trust Company, being elected President. He was also the head of the Citizens' Heat, Light and Power Company, and a Director of the Clay and Hinkletown Turnpike Company.

In any enterprise tending to enhance the material or æsthetic interest of the city of his adoption, the deceased was a willing and influential supporter, and in no way was this disposition more explicitly set forth than in his building operations. The building at Grant and North Queen streets, now occupied by Stauffer's hat store and the American Tobacco Company, was quite a revelation to local business men when it was erected, while the "Hotel Cocalico," at Ephrata, erected about nine years ago, for its beauty and elegance, befitting a metropolis far more appropriately than a rural town, will be an enduring monument to his memory and that of the entire Steinmetz family—the pioneers of the ancient settlement.

On February, 1890, Mr. Steinmetz was married to Miss Mary Virginia Hawthorn, daughter of the late James Clemesen Hawthorn. Of this union one child was born, Hawthorn Steinmetz, who, with the bereaved wife, survives. Two brothers also survive, George Steinmetz, of Ephrata borough, and Martin Van Buren Steinmetz, of New York city. Mrs. Salinda Major, of Lebanon, is a surviving sister.

Of recent years, Mr. Steinmetz's health had seriously failed him, but his indomitable will power stayed the messenger's hand to the extreme limit. Several years ago he closed his beautiful home on North Duke street and removed to the Cocalico, where he passed away at 8.00 P. M. on Monday, February 15, 1904. He became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society on January 18, 1898.



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**Col. Wilbur Fisk Reeder.**

Col. Reeder was one of the best-known and most popular men in Center County, and was, for many years prominent in the affairs of the State of Pennsylvania. Born on January 7, 1855, near Catawissa, Pa., and the son of a farmer, he passed his early boyhood in the country, gaining his early education in the public schools. From thence he entered Dickinson Seminary of Williamsport, graduating from same in 1875 at the head of his class. He studied law with Bush, Yocum and Hastings, Bellefonte, Pa., and was admitted to the bar of Center County, Pa., in 1877. In 1881 he formed a partnership with General Daniel H. Hastings, late Governor of the Commonwealth. Elected Chief Burgess of Bellefonte in 1892; appointed in 1895, Assistant Adjutant General on Governor Hastings' Staff, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; in 1897-1899 served as Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania to succeed John P. Elkin. For six years he was First Lieutenant of Company B, Fifth Regiment, N. G. P., also on the staff of General Wiley, commander of the Second Brigade.

Col. Reeder was a member of the Supreme and Superior Courts of Pennsylvania, Sons of the Revolution, and Union League of Philadelphia, a thirty-second degree Mason, and Past Master, Past High Priest and Past Eminent Commander in his lodge, chapter and comandery respectively. In politics he was Republican, being a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1904.



On December 19, 1878, he married Lillie S. Gotwalt, a lineal descendant of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, D.D., and Colonel Conrad Weiser, recently elected State Regent of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. They have had one son, John Wallace Reeder.

His decease occurred at 12:55 A. M., on August 28, 1904, and was caused by hemorrhages of the lungs.

He was elected a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society on January 18, 1898.

H. M. M. R.



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**Dr. Seiss.**

Rev. Joseph Augustus Seiss, D.D., LL.D., L.H.D., late president of the Pennsylvania-German Society, died at his residence in Philadelphia on Monday, June 20, 1904, aged 81 years and 3 months. He had an attack of grippe in February which left him so exhausted that his strength gradually failed until he "fell asleep." His strong mental powers however never weakened. During his long illness his mind not only never wandered, but while confined to his sick-bed he insisted on correcting the proof-sheets and writing the preface to another volume of sermons shortly to appear.

The funeral services took place on Friday, June 24, in the Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion, Chestnut street, near 21st, of which congregation he was the founder and only pastor. The spacious building was filled with a congregation representing the many institutions, organizations and interests with which he was connected, among whom were not less than a hundred and fifty clergymen. The address was delivered by the writer, and was followed by tributes from Rev. H. E. Jacobs, DD., LL.D., dean of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and Rev. G. F. Krotel, DD., LL.D., of New York, who for many years was associated with Dr. Seiss in church work. The interment took place in the family lot in Laurel Hill cemetery.

It is not our purpose to repeat the data and facts of Dr. Seiss' life which are contained in the biographical sketch

which appeared in Vol. XII., of this publication; but to bear testimony to the greatness, nobility, and many excellencies of character which distinguished this eminent man and Prince of Preachers.

Dr. Seiss was not a child of fortune nor was eminence thrust upon him. Born in an obscure hamlet in western Maryland, his life seemed destined to the farm. When fourteen years of age he walked a dozen miles to see a synodical convention at Frederick. He started early in the morning and returned at night, without partaking of a meal during his absence from home, and repeated the same the following day. It was what he saw and heard at that synod that determined his purpose to enter the ministry. But circumstances were untoward. His father opposed his wishes, and a Moravian bishop, whose counsel he sought, advised him to remain at the plough. Through his mother's influence he obtained sufficient means to spend two years at the collegiate and theological institutions at Gettysburg, and continuing his studies privately while teaching school, he entered the university at nineteen years of age and began as an humble missionary in the mountains of Virginia. This was the beginning of a life which rose to an eminence that but few have attained. It was gained through hard work, constant application, and an indomitable will and purpose which yielded to no discouragement. From his obscure field of labor he was soon called to more prominent and promising places in the neighborhood; thence to Baltimore, and then to Philadelphia where in 1858 he became pastor of St. John's Church, the most influential Lutheran congregation at that time in this country. Out of this congregation the Church of the Holy Communion was organized by him in 1874, and with it he remained until his death.

In his prime he was recognized as the most able and eloquent preacher in Philadelphia, and with but few equals anywhere. In the great conflicts and controversies of the Lutheran Church concerning its creeds, measures, modes of worship and general church polity, he soon became a recognized leader of the conservative party. In the organization of the General Council and its institutions, and in the preparation of its book of worship known as the Church-Book, no one was more prominent, active and influential than he. At the most critical crisis, he was the leading editor of *The Lutheran*, by means of which his influence and power were greatly extended. And he lived to see the success of those things for which he contended and stood, the general acceptance of the historical creeds and faith of the church, and the adoption by the three general bodies of a Common Service in the worship of Lutheran congregations using the English language.

Several things entered into the making of a man, who, in spite of such early disadvantages, gained such prominence, influence, and success. One of these was the strong personality he possessed. His great talents and noble soul dwelt in a faultless body. His physical form was commanding, and his face was a benediction. When out among strangers in our summer journeys, the remark was repeatedly made, "how much your friend's face resembles that of Washington."

And the inner man which dwelt in that body was worthy of its habitation. Over thirty years of uninterrupted and most intimate companionship, we learned to know him as men only can be known and judged when the restraints of life are laid aside. And we bear our testimony to the greatness of his character and the nobility of his soul. He preached great sermons and accomplished great things,

because he was a great man. While manifesting a personal dignity and somewhat reticent manner among strangers, he was one of the most genial, cordial, considerate and in every way delightful companions and friends that could be desired. Controversies often provoked severe criticism from his lips and pen, but when the controversy was past, no one was more ready to resume friendly relations than he.

He possessed a mental alertness which gave a touch of originality to much he spoke or wrote. Some of his best sermons were unfolded from texts in which no other preacher suspected a sermon lay hid. His style of composition was massive and often majestic, yet as simple and clear as his mastery of Anglo-Saxon could make it. He had the true conception of a sermon, and no matter whether his text was taken from the Old Testament or the New, that text became a schoolmaster to bring his hearers to Christ. He never prepared a sermon, in all the wide range of topics his researches and studies suggested, the purpose of which was not to lead men to faith in Christ as their Saviour, or to establish and confirm them in that faith. He was gifted with a splendid voice of pleasant tone and peculiar power, and he knew how to employ it. While using his manuscript in the pulpit, his freedom of manner and strong action made his hearers forget there was a manuscript before him.

Coupled with these natural gifts was his untiring industry. He was a constant searcher after truth, and rarely knew what it was to be tired in that search. He wrestled with it and would not let it go until he had gained its blessing, even if he halted on his thigh at the rising of the sun. We have come upon him at all hours of the day in his study, and never found him in an easy chair but always at his table, and generally with his pen in his hand.

What he did, he did well. He made everything count in the fulfilment of his work. Every sermon or address was prepared with minutest care, so that as soon as delivered it was ready for the printer's hand. This is the secret why his books multiplied so rapidly, and were found to be so complete. His work was not by spurts or moods, but constant, systematic, and according to rule.

But now that work is over and he has entered into his rest. Over his memory we can write what was said of him after whom he was named "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall. The archers have sorely grieved him and shot at him. But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hand of the mighty God of Jacob."

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

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